

Application No. 09/512,306
Amendment dated March 13, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 12, 2006

Docket No.: 20402-00602-US

REMARKS

In view of the above amendment, applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance. Claims 2, 3, 6, 8, 10, 11 and 13-16 are canceled. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 17 and 18 are pending.

The office action and prior art relied upon have been carefully considered. Applicants note the indicated allowability of claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 17 and 18, subject to be rewritten to overcome the objections set forth in the prior office action.

In paragraph 3 of the office action, claim 1 was objected to on the basis of an informality which has been corrected in the foregoing amendment to claim 1.

The rejection of claims 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Tsurumoto (US 6,510,555) in view of Blackwell (US 6,085,253) is noted but is moot in view of the cancellation of these claims.

Accordingly, the amended claims are in condition for formal allowance.

In view of the above, consideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In the event the Examiner believes an interview might serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the telephone number noted below.

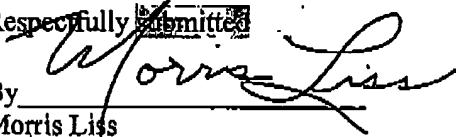
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The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication, including any extension fees, to CBLH Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 20402-00602-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: March ¹⁰ 2006

Respectfully Submitted

By 
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